

latitude of Perth on the west side of Rottnest Island on March 27, causing heavy precipitation and gale force northerly winds. Because the cyclone followed a route down the west coast somewhat similar to that taken by the cyclone of March 1956 (J. Gentilli, *W.A. Naturalist*, 5, 1956: 84, 135), conditions were favourable for the fortuitous transportation of the White-winged Black Tern. When I visited the coastal lakes south of the Swan River in the late afternoon of March 27, the following census of the tern-species was taken: Coolbellup Lake, 4; Bibra Lake, 4; Yangebup Lake, nil; Jilbup Lake, 1; Cooloongup Lake, 10; and Walyungup Lake, 17.

The following day another survey was made and 3 birds were seen at Monger's Lake, 7 at Coolbellup Lake, and none at Perry's and Herdsman's Lakes and Lucky Bay. On March 29, I saw 13 at Bibra Lake and 4 at Cooloongup Lake, but none at Coolbellup, Yangebup, Jilbup, Coogee, Richmond and Walyungup Lakes and the Mandurah estuary. H. Atkinson saw 21 at Coolbellup Lake on March 29. The lakes and swamps between Perth and Yanchep were surveyed on March 30, but no White-winged Black Terns were seen. On April 3, P. Fuller and I saw 8 birds at Bibra Lake.

Compared with the previous invasion, the 1960 irruption was on a considerably smaller scale and birds were garbed in a more advanced stage of the nuptial plumage. They mostly had the breast and throat dappled black; head with varying amounts of black; small amounts of black on the back; wing-linings, black; upper wings, grey; tips of primaries, dark grey; tail, white above and below; beak, black. A few terns had no black except on the nape. No moulting of the wing feathers was noted.

Their flight was a fluttering action, and periodically they would swoop down and pick up food from the surface of the water. They usually fed against the wind and kept reworking the same strip over the water.

I am indebted to Mr. R. Vollprecht of the Perth Weather Bureau for allowing me to examine climatic data on the movement of the cyclone of March 1960.

FROM FIELD AND STUDY

Aquatic Plants from Mingenew.—On a trip to Mingenew in October, 1959 to collect aquatic plants members of the Fresh Water Group examined a clay pan about forty feet in diameter, which yielded the following nine species of aquatics—*Lepilaena australis*, *Glossostigma drummondii*, *Damasonium minus*, *Callitriche verna*, *Crassula recurva*, *Ottelia ovalifolia*, *Marsilea brownii*, *Isoetes drummondii*, *Chara australis*.

This collection is a notably varied one for a small swamp when compared with collections which have been made from swamps in the vicinity of Perth.

—J. KNIGHT and G. G. SMITH.